

**County Council Meeting
August 18, 2015**

Present: Steve Winsett, Aaron Benton, Blake Bunner, Jack Kroeger, Bill Spaetti, Dave Kress, Todd Ruxer, Attorney John Wetherill, Auditor Autumn Winkler

Meeting was called to order by President Bill Spaetti at 5:00 P.M.

Minutes

Benton made a motion to approve the July 21, 2015 minutes. Ruxer seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Additional Appropriations

Cum Cap

Auditor/Treasurer/Assessor Server **\$12,191.25**

Eck Mundy presented a quote to the Auditor's office for the purchase of a new server. This server is a shared unit between the Auditor, Treasurer and Assessor office. They feel that with the age and storage of the old machine that it might be in the counties best interest to consider the purchase of a new machine, to ensure there is not a collapse or loss of data. Auditor Winkler and the commissioner's are requesting an additional appropriation to purchase a new server with additional ram speed from the Cumulative Capital Fund. Kroeger made a motion to approve the purchase of a new server from Cum Cap. Kress seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Transfers

Circuit Court

Decrease Account # 1000-136-4360.00 Maximus IV-D Invoices **\$600.00**

Increase Account # 1000-136-4441.00 Furniture and Fixtures **\$600.00**

Judge Dartt came before the council to request a transfer from the Maximum IV-D account to furniture and fixtures to purchase a new scanner. We are not currently under contract with Maximus which provided additional funds in that line that are not needed. The circuit court is working to update their equipment and wish to use these additional funds to assist with that. Kress made a motion to approve the \$600.00 transfer. Ruxer seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Salary Ordinance Amendment

Judge Dartt came before the council to request an amendment to the 2015 Salary Ordinance. Amendment 2015-07 would change the CASA director's hourly rate from \$16.73/hr. to \$18.43/hr. Judge Dartt explained that the CASA director rates are set by him and the state, due to the county not fully funding that program. Spencer County contributes a set dollar amount to the CASA program each year and the remainder of funding comes from the state and donations. The CASA directors have not had a pay increase since the program was started and Dartt wishes to get the director wages on the same level as court employees. There was much discussion about whether or not the CASA employees should be considered county employees or private contractors. It was determined that due to the employees being paid through payroll, it was best to consider them employees of the county and to list their wages on the Salary Ordinance. Kroeger made a motion to approve Amendment 2015-07 amending the hourly rate for CASA directors on the Salary Ordinance, but wants it noted that we as a county are not contributing any additional funds to this program. The entity has the funds to pay the additional expense themselves. Ruxer seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Old Business

Gogel spoke with the council about the Santa Claus Trail project and the \$400,000.00 they are requesting from the county to go towards this project. Gogel had the idea that the county could possibly take the \$100,000.00 annual payment that is made from COIT each year for the water project and divert that money to the trails project, if the water project is stable enough to not need the funds. This payment could be diverted effective immediately for a 4 year period and then payments to the water project would resume with an additional 4 years tacked on the end to make up for the trail project payments. Mike Johannes, a member of the Santa Claus board, was in attendance and stated that the water project could handle that payment being diverted

for a 4 year period. The water project is doing very well and that account is carrying a steady balance. Kroeger ask Gogel about the possibility of taking the payments from the CEDIT fund, due to the money requested being used for roads on the project. Gogel stated that the money requested is not being solely used for roads, it is just the match requested from the county. Bunner stated that his concern with giving the additional money is that if the water project is doing so well and can withstand the payments being diverted for 4 years, why are we still contributing? A municipality/government entity should run a fairly tight ship and not have excess funds lying around that are not needed. Johannes stated that in their defense, this project has gone better than anticipated. The council instructed Johannes to go back and report to Santa Claus the plan stated and the possibility of not even adding an additional 4 years to the end if those funds are not needed for the water project. He will come before the council again at a later date. The council will continue to discuss this after budget hearings, when we better know the financial state of the county.

New Business

Bunner met with Superintendent Mike Robinson, a South Spencer School Board member and a few other individuals about the LEC building, also known as the old middle school and high school. The school is looking into the possibility of getting rid of the building, due to the cost to maintain such a large old building. They feel it is necessary to tear down the oldest part of the building where a majority of the classrooms were and then sell the remaining newer portion. Suggestions were made about possible uses for the building and Bunner mentioned the possibility of the county being interested if they were to give us the property. We currently pay rent on three office spaces and lack of space is always a concern. Bunner stated he thought it might be something for the commissioners to look into. Kroeger stated we would need to look at a financial projection of what the expenses could be with this building. Bunner said it was just a brainstorming session and he wanted to pass along the information.

Insurance

Kroeger mentioned that he had spoke with Commissioner Gogel about some possible insurance changes that could be implemented and additional funds that can be used. Kroeger went on to list the possible changes:

-Additional Appropriation: Highway - \$100,000.00
Cum Bridge - \$14,000.00

- Spousal Carve Out
- Spousal Surcharge
- Raise Deductible
- Budget actual cost of insurance for each fund
- Raise Co-insurance
- Raise OOP Max

Our hope is that claims slow down and that we have a much better year this year, but the changes listed can be implemented if necessary. We will continue to keep an eye on insurance cost and decide what changes will go in effect January 1,2016.

Kress made a motion to adjourn. Ruxer seconded the motion, motion was approved.
Meeting was adjourned at 6:15 P.M.

President
Attest:

Auditor, Autumn Winkler

